FOR CREES WHO
DARE TO BE FREE

Nation

Volume 4, No. 24 • October 24, 1997

CREE WOMEN
ON THE LANGUAGE
THEY LOVE

In the Stars
THELMA & LOUISE
DISH ON LOVE, SEX,
MONEY & HAPPINESS

Dr. Truth
ON LONELINESS

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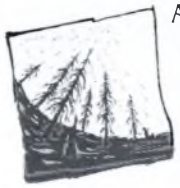
Aboriginal Peoples Restoring the Land



Aboriginal peoples are ensuring that the land they have borrowed from their children will be returned in better shape through environmental improvement projects undertaken in communities across Canada.

From Newfoundland to the Queen Charlotte Islands and north to the Arctic Circle, Aboriginal peoples are participating in **ACTION 21**. This Environment Canada program encourages community efforts to support a healthy environment.

ACTION 21 provides financial support to community non-government, non-profit organizations taking on projects involving such things as biodiversity, ecosystem conservation, climate change, air pollution and household hazardous waste. Deadlines for funding submissions are February 1, May 1, and October 1 of each year.

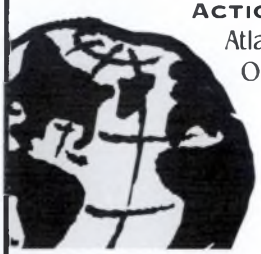
To be considered, proposals must promise a positive, measurable impact on the environment and the applicants must at least match the Environment Canada funds with financial or in-kind support.

There is a deep spiritual relationship and connection Aboriginal Peoples have with the land, and a belief each generation does not inherit the land but borrows it from the next. That philosophy is reflected in various **ACTION 21** projects:

Along the watershed of Pinchgut Lake in Newfoundland, members of the Benoits Cove Indian Band removed debris that impeded waterflow and the upstream movement of fish on the way to spawn.

The Seton Lake First Nation Community in the Chilcotin Mountain Ranges, between Vancouver and Williams Lake, has worked to remove noxious weeds infiltrating sensitive wildlife habitat. The Liard River Reserve #3 at Watson Lake saw an opportunity with **ACTION 21** to clean up about 15 sites on its land strewn with garbage, abandoned vehicles and harmful chemicals.

For more information about how your group can take part and to order your free applicant's guide, contact the **ACTION 21** Regional Office nearest you.



ACTION 21 Regional Offices

Atlantic: 1-800-663-5755 • Quebec: 1-800-463-4311 • Ontario: 1-800-661-7785 Manitoba & Saskatchewan: 1-800-665-7135 • Alberta & NWT: 1-800-567-1570 • Pacific & Yukon: 1-800-667-7779

WE'RE LOOKING FOR LEADERS...

Plant a tree...restore an entire fish population... each is a contribution to a cleaner environment and makes a difference by making Canada a cleaner and safer place to live.

Bill Marion is just one example of how people in communities are taking a lead in protecting the environment. As water and wastewater operator at the James Smith Cree First Nation near Melfort, Saskatchewan, he has set standards and precedents for all First Nation water and wastewater operators by increasing awareness about the importance of providing safe drinking water and sanitation in First Nation communities.

The **ACTION 21** Network wants to know about environmental citizenship action by individuals, groups, municipalities, corporations, youth or children.

These leaders are officially recognized for their efforts and their projects are often used as examples to inspire others.

Deadlines for submissions are February 1, May 1 and October 1, however, submissions are welcome throughout the year.

Forms are available by:

Phoning: **1-800-668-6767** or at **http://www.ec.gc.ca/action21/hero/english/index.html**

ACTION 21

Working together for a healthier environment

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Canada

My Father

by Charlie Alisappi

My Father, he was my best friend
I was his son
I loved him and I still do
I always wanted to be like him
Brave, Strong, Smart and Funny

My Father, he was my best friend
I always wanted to do what he did
he would laugh
I would laugh
he would get mad
I would get mad
cause I wanted to be like him

My Father, he was my best friend
he meant everything to me
he left us, he left the world
most sadly he left me alone

I don't know where he is
maybe he is beside me
or he is the sun or the moon
to watch over me all day long
or to watch over me while I sleep

My Father, he was my best friend
But best of all, my father gave me
a gift before he left
he gave me a new father.

I lost my dad at a very young age. Today I'm 19. I finished my first year of university (engineering). I wish he was here to see how far I made it in life.

Charlie Alisappi lives in Moose Factory, Ont., but is originally from Fort George.

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ON THE COVER
Nian Matoush
Photo: Neil Diamond
design: Katerina Cizek

TWO WEEKS IN THE LIFE OF THE NATION.

Monday morningish and the latest edition of The Nation has arrived from the printer. The Nation team get their first look at the latest product. There are some oohs and aahs and once in a while an awww make its way into the reactions. Another week has begun and I am still at home in bed recovering from the past weekend's debaucheries.

Monday is the least stressfull of the entire two weeks. Long lunches and more frequent smoke breaks make up most of the day complete with open discussion on the previous weekend's events. But then people get serious after another, or during, a smoke break and start coming up with story ideas for the next issue.The salespeople are already hot on the trail for advertizers. The newsmen are on the phones chasing down their quarry. The phones are ringing. Another smoke break follows.

Tuesday: Not that much different from Monday. Sometimes photos are taken, people do lunch, ideas are batted around. Catherine runs around making sure people are working. A work board has been tacked up to the wall. Under every worker's name is a list of their chores for the week. The list is long. "Between Friends," "News," "Phonebook," "CD ROM," "Rez Notes," "Tax situation" and on, and on. A game is on one of the computers and some of us are hypnotized by Red Alert or Diablo. The office slowly empties by six o'clock.

Wednesday: Ads are drummed up and stories start to take form. More scandalous behaviour by the two governments and maybe a chief from here or there. Readers call in with tips. Some even call for help with this or that. Alex, Will and Catherine are constantly on the phone. Ernie is at his desk deep in thought plotting the takeover of the national Native publishing industry. The classifieds come by mail or fax by the handful and have to be entered. Tedious work. I wanna this, I wanna that. You've seen them.

Thursday: A slight panic starts to enter the workplace. Are the photos done? When will they be ready? Did this person call back? This has to be done that has to be done. "Put away the photos!" someone says to me. It never ends.

Friday: The calm before the storm. The weekend is ahead. People are glad.

Black Monday: Three days before the paper goes to print. The writers are hunched over their computers, their fingers moving lightning fast over the keyboards. Ads come in by fax or courier. More meetings follow. Frantic smoke breaks.

Tuesday: Photos are ready. Some of them. The others are on the plane from the North. Stories already done are edited, proofed and if someone feels like it, they're laid out. Once in awhile a story breaks and calls are made. Get the ugly facts! Stress everywhere. Red Alert comes up on the computer screen. People stay in much later putting finishing touches on their pieces. The nights end sometimes eleven or midnight.

Wednesday: Most of the ads are done save for corrwections. Katerina spews out newly designed ads from the Mac and many end up back on her desk for minute corrections. The layout has begun. Most photos are back. Headlines are conceived. They have to be hip and catchy dammit! The editorial is on its way. The boys are working late. Not midnight late but two thirty in the morning late.

Thursday: We're almost there. Everything is up on the wall ready to go and I'm sitting here typing these word with the guy from the printer standing behind me glaring. I pissed him off again I think.

by Ndiamon

the Nation

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CLIFFORD WASHIPABANO

Teams from Amos, Rouyn and Chibougamau were in town for the event.

CHISASIBI HOSTS BANTAM CC TOURNAMENT

CREE NATION BEARS HEAD INTO A NEW SEASON

It is the first time ever that a Cree hockey team has entered a structured hockey league in the Abitibi region, the Bantam "CC" Inter-Cite.

Stan Jones initiated the project of hosting Bantam CC tournaments in James Bay, starting with Chisasibi. Stan is the director of hockey development and works for the Cree Regional Authority.

The event was held to give the guest teams from Amos, Chibougamau and Rouyn a chance to get to know the newest hockey team in their league, the Cree Nation Bears. The tournament also allowed these boys and their coaches to experience a cultural trip in Chisasibi.

The tournament would not have been possible without the help of the volunteers, foster families, all the generous local sponsors, Madeline Matthew and her cooks, the support of parents of the boys who are playing with the Bears, the involvement of our chief, Charles Bobbish, and especially the population of Chisasibi and its support for the Bears and warm welcome given to the guest teams.

It was a great success not only because we witnessed a new calibre of hockey introduced in our community, and our boys being part of it, showing us they do have their place in this league... not only because of a great spectacle of hockey we got to see... not only because of the good relationship between the four participating teams... but certainly because of all the positive comments coming out about this tournament, from the crowd, the foster families, the hockey teams' coaches and the hockey players themselves.

The visiting boys commented that they realized their neighbours, the Crees, live the typical type of teenagers' life they do in their respective cities, only in their own Cree language in an environment proper to their culture and traditions.

For these reasons, it was worth it! For these reasons, we want to believe our Cree Nation Bears will integrate into this hockey league, not only as respected hockey players, but also as equals!

Good luck to the Cree Nation Bears for their upcoming hockey season.

For people interested in the scores of the games, which were not considered a priority during this tournament, here they are:

1st place: Rouyn-Noranda
2nd: Amos
Final Score: Rouyn 2, Amos 0
3rd: Chibougamau
4th: Cree Nation Bears
Final: Chibgou. 6, Bears 5

All Star Team
Goalie: Yannick Bisson (Rouyn)
Defense: Michel Cloutier (Rouyn)
Defense: Inimiki Polson (Amos)
Forward: Jerry Matoush (Bears)
Forward: Dany Lalonde (Chiboug.)
Forward: Ruan Guillemette (Amos)

by Dolores Audet Washipabano

THE MYSTERY OF THE HEADLESS BEAR

Concern about non-Native sport hunters is again an issue after someone shot and stole a bear from a Cree Elder's trap in the Waswanipi area.

Frustration is running high because of evidence the culprit may have been a Surete du Quebec police officer based in Chibougamau.

Tallyman Isaac Dixon, 78, set the trap by the road near his camp at Windy Lake. When he checked it two days later, he was surprised to find blood and bear fur in the trap. But where was the bear?

It usually takes a bear two weeks or so in a trap before it is hungry enough to pull or chew off its paw. Dixon went back to check his trap after just two days, so it looks like theft. Also, the chain holding down the trap was left piled on top of the trap. This a bear isn't likely to do.

Taking an animal from a trap is theft under the law. But this hasn't stopped non-Natives from robbing Cree traps over the years.

Dixon's family called in the game wardens, who found a spent handgun round at the site. Hunting with a handgun is a violation of provincial regulations and this can lead to a fine, said Dave Erdely, the district's top Wildlife Dept. official.

Dixon's family says staff in the Wildlife office told them an SQ officer had registered a bear kill at around the same time. Both the game wardens and SQ opened investigations.

After *The Nation* called to inquire about the investigations, the Dixon family was told they could have the bear that was registered in town. When they picked it up, they were told to sign an agreement withdrawing their police complaint so nobody would be charged. They were given a bear carcass with both front paws and the head cut off.

SQ spokesman Gaetan Lessard refused to reveal the suspect's name, or if he or she was an SQ officer. He confirmed that the bear carcass had had a damaged paw.

But the suspect denies killing the bear in the trap and claims the paw was already cut, said Lessard. The suspect also says he doesn't own a handgun of the same calibre as the 9mm bullet at the site. Standard SQ police issue is .357 Magnum. Possession of an unregistered restricted weapon is also a criminal offense.

-Alex Roslin

paid advertisement

8th edition of the

RAID DES BRAVES

It's time to register!

Lebel-sur Quévillon - The final countdown has started! The 8th edition of Raid des Braves is approaching rapidly. Winter will soon knock at our doors, so it is time, you snowmobile fanatics, to enter the most important off trail snowmobile race of the world: the Raid des Braves.

The large nordic spaces, the cold and the snow make you dream? The idea of competing with people who live in the Northwest territories fascinate you? The 8th edition of the Raid des Braves which takes place from February 14th to February 21st 1998, is especially made for you: snowmobile fanatics who brave adventure and challenge.

This new edition of the Raid des Braves promises to be one of the most exciting by presenting the prologue and start of the race in Quebec City as part of the activities of the Carnaval de Québec, February 14th and 15th 1998. The race will continue its itinerary towards the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and the Northern Quebec regions. Even if the route is kept secret at this moment, we can however promise a challenging course reflecting the excellent reputation of the Raid des Braves. This year, the total amount of prizes is $60,000 (CAN).

The Raid des Braves is more than a race, it is the perfect occasion to bond with people who live in the Nordic spaces. The event assumes a unique character since it can count on the support of all partners of Northern Quebec and show the existing harmony between the different cultural communities of the region.

Year after year, the itinerary gets longer. The resistance, the speed and the competitive potential of the participants become the requirement of the brave racers. Sporting spirit, comradeship and courage are the characteristics of the Raid des Braves: "The ultimate discovery of the nordic spaces."

For each team, the registration fees are $8,500.00 (CAN). All registration fees have to be sent to the Raid des Braves office, at the following address: Box 817, Lebel-sur-Quévillon, Québec, J0Y 1X0.

ALL FEES INCLUDE:

- enrollment in the race
- three snowmobile suits for the racers
- morning and evening meals, from February 15th to February 21st 1998 inclusively
- lodging, from February 14th to February 20th 1998 inclusively
- all taxes

The race will take place by teams on an itinerary of 3,000 km off snowmobile trails. A team consists of three snowmobilers and a mechanic in addition to a sleigh containing life support equipment.

The Raid des Braves is now the meeting place by excellence where snowmobile fanatics can complete against the best of the world. If you are interested in this challenge, communicate delay with the organizers at (819) 755-3334.

WASKAGANISH TAKES AIM AT THE CRA

The debate over reorganizing the Cree Regional Authority has taken a new turn.

The Waskaganish First Nation has sent a letter to the CRA asking to take over a wide range of services. In the letter, the band says the CRA hasn't provided adequate services to Waskaganish, according to those who have seen the letter. The band says it had to pay for these services itself and asks the CRA for $270,000 as compensation.

Waskaganish also reportedly asks for $660,000 a year in the future to deliver these services itself. It is not clear from the letter if the band wants the CRA to do anything at all on its behalf. This raises the question: Is Waskaganish pulling out of the CRA?

Apparently, not. One chief says the band is merely upset about how talks are going with the Feds over funding. The letter was intended as a wakeup call to the CRA.

We were unable to reach Waskaganish Chief Billy Diamond before he and the other chiefs went into an executive meeting with CRA officials at Maclean's camp outside Waskaganish.

The letter is apparently based on a resolution adopted by the Waskaganish Band Council in September. *The Nation*'s Neil Diamond, a band member, requested a copy of this resolution, but was refused because he is with the media. "It'll have to go through chief and council given your position, my friend," said a band official.

According to the Cree-Naskapi Act, "Any person is entitled to obtain a copy of a by-law or resolution of a band on payment of such reasonable fee as is fixed by the band." Diamond is making a written request for the resolution.

Simeon Trapper, deputy chief, refused to comment saying he wasn't at the Band Council meeting in question.

Opinion is mixed among the Cree leadership about these developments. One chief recalled the last time Waskaganish decided to go it alone and negotiate one-on-one with the Feds. Waskaganish got its share of money before the other communities, which led to resentment.

"We were concerned about it. It's divide and conquer. It always looks interesting to go to the Feds ourselves. But that's what the CRA was set up for. We see it as disbanding," said the chief.

"The other chiefs are concerned. It's something that's on the table that has yet to be resolved."

But another chief said Crees have legitimate concerns about some of the entities.

"To put it bluntly, they have brought it on themselves," he said. "It's been 20 years since these entities were created. They might have worked then. Maybe it has to change with time. People can do more at the local level. Maybe it needs to be streamlined a little bit."

Others agree with the need to reorganize the entities, but say the Waskaganish band is getting touchy about the funding negotiations because of budget problems in the community.

The band is said to be millions of dollars in the hole after a costly and ambitious series of construction projects. At least one of the projects, a new water-treatment plant, reportedly went overbudget. Malcolm Moses, treasurer of the band, refused to reveal the size of the band's debt or deficit. "You have to go to the chief and council," he said. "I don't talk to the press."

by Alex Roslin & Will Nicholls

CHISASIBI AIRPORT FACELIFT STARTS

Work to improve the Chisasibi airstrip is now officially under way.

The $1.8-million facelift will give the airstrip a new gravel runway, a taxiway and tarmac, a runway lighting system and a building to house the electrical system.

The community has complained about the poor airport facilities since it moved from Fort George Island 17 years ago.

But even with the improvements, the airstrip will still not have a building for airport staff and travellers to wait in.

The airstrip also won't be extended so it can accommodate air ambulance planes needed by the Chisasibi Hospital.

Meanwhile, the airport at LG-2 got $2.9-million from Transport Canada for improvements to the visual aid system and repaving of the runway and taxiway.

LOGGING ROADS CLAIM 20 LIVES EACH YEAR: MNR

Accidents on Quebec's logging roads claim 20 lives every year, but these roads remain exempt from the Highway Code.

Each year, 250 people are involved in accidents on Quebec logging roads, says the Ministry of Natural Resources. But because the roads are not public, speed limits and other safety regulations don't apply to logging trucks and other traffic.

Logging trucks also don't have to respect load limits, said Yvon Bouchard, head of the MNR office in Chibougamau. "On forestry roads, there is no specific tonnage like on public roads."

Bouchard said the government is aware of concerns about safety on logging roads and is in the middle of making some changes.

"The government will release very soon a policy that will allow a little better control over the roads," he said.

Bouchard could not explain why it has taken two years for the government to react to a request by the Surete du Quebec to put some logging roads in the North under the Highway Code.

A government newsletter says better controls will be put in place in early 1998. But the newsletter says that since the forestry industry creates 76,000 jobs, "there is no question of interrupting the activities related to the industry."

continued on page 9

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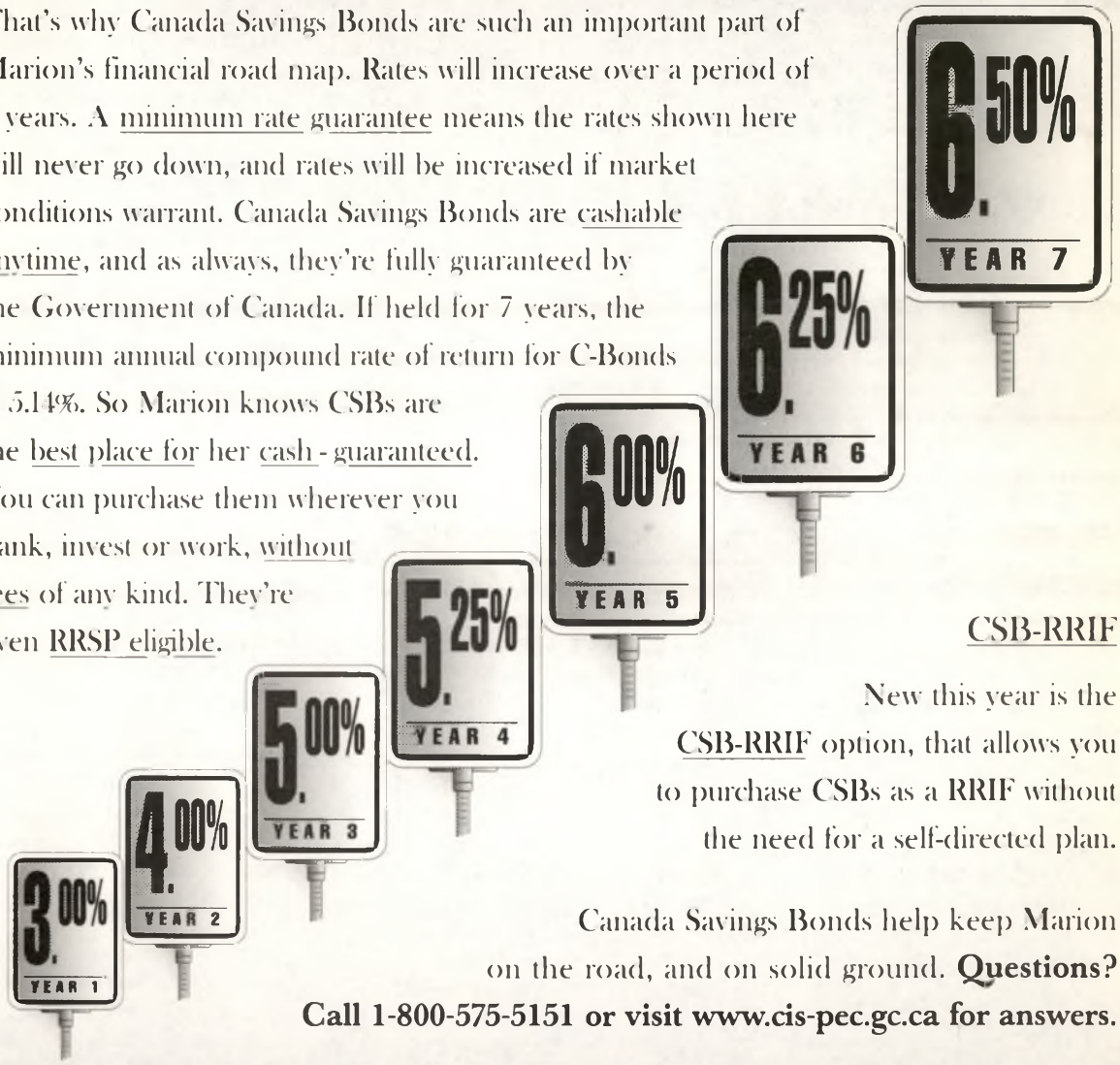

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Canada Savings Bonds

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Guaranteed. Flexible. Cashable.

Sale ends November 1st.

Ladies and Gentlemen...

The Cree Nation Bears

continued from page 7

Native girl's killer freed

Dwayne Archie Johnston, the man who killed Helen Betty Osborne 26 years ago, is out on parole.

Grabbed by four men on the street, Osborne, a 19-year-old Native girl, was stabbed 56 times with a screwdriver in The Pas, Manitoba.

The identity of the white suspects was well known in town but covered up for many years. It took 16 years before Johnston was charged and convicted on the testimony of another man who was granted immunity for his testimony.

Another man, James Houghton, was acquitted of first-degree murder and a fourth man was never charged.

Johnston served only 10 years of a life term sentence. The parole panel voted 2-1 for full parole. The dissenting member said Johnston's life is still unsettled by a custody battle over one of his children and he still doesn't understand the violent tendencies in his behaviour.

The panel did agree he poses little risk of committing another crime.

No forests left in 50 years: WWF

Almost two-thirds of the planet's original forests have already been destroyed, and if deforestation continues at present rates, there will be virtually no natural forests left in 50 years.

This is the alarming conclusion of the World Wildlife Fund in a report this month.

Of 8 billion hectares of forest covering the Earth 8,000 years ago, only 3 billion is left. About 17 million hectares of tropical forest are being slashed every year, and the loss is similar in the northerly forests in Canada, the U.S., Europe and Russia.

"What's terrifying is that the pace of the destruction has accelerated enormously in the last five years and continues to accelerate," said Francis Sullivan, director of the WWF's forestry campaign in London, England.

Hardly any of the forest that remains is protected from development. Only 2 per cent in Europe and Russia, and less than 5 per cent in North America, Africa and Asia are protected.

The Asia-Pacific region has been worst culprit. It has lost 88 per cent of its forest. The countries with the worst records are El Salvador, Ghana, Madagasgar and Pakistan, which have less than 10 per cent of their original forest left. Brazil has the worst rate of annual deforestation in the world.

The WWF is calling on all countries to react by setting aside 10 per cent of their forests as protected by the year 2000.

Tiny island seeks nationhood

A tiny Caribbean island about half the size of the Cree Nation is taking its first steps toward independence.

The five-person legislature of the island of Nevis has voted unanimously to secede from the island's federation with St. Kitts. Now, secession must be approved by two-thirds of Nevis's 5,000 adult voters. For comparison, there are just over 8,000 adult Cree voters.

Residents of Nevis have wanted to split from St. Kitts for a long time. They reluctantly joined it in a federation after the islands gained independence from Britain in 1983. The federation's prime minister, Denzil Douglas, says he will not oppose secession, and most residents of St. Kitts don't seem to mind either.

BASKETBALL PLAYERS ARE DRIBBLERS

The Mon-Stars

By William Nicholls

A funny thought went through my mind on the way to Mistissini's 3rd Invitational Basketball Tournament. "Basketball players are dribblers." I didn't say it out loud at the tournament given the jovial enthusiasm shown by player and spectator alike. Anthony MacLeod, one of the organizers, said this was one of the biggest turnouts to date. Thirty-two teams from Chisasibi, Ouje-Bougoumou, Amos, Chibougamou, Weymontachie and Waskaganish were all on hand to battle Mistissini's finest.

Speaking of Mistissini's other finest; the police entered the Recreational "C" level. They made it to the semi-finals but the Mistissini Trappers, who have expanded their hockey franchise into basketball, barely beat them out 38-36. The Trappers, in turn, came up against some hard competition. Melvin's Boys swarmed in to win the tournament's Men's Recreational "C" 41-27. I imagine the Trappers are hoping to meet again on the ice.

John Gossett

Chisasibi took the Women's category beating out the Mistissini Bullets 31-20 as the Bullets ran out of ammunition. The Mistissini Stallions stampeded their Waskaganish competition 60-19. It was an inter-tribal battle with the Mistissini Mon-Stars taking on Mistissini Fila. Mon-Stars won 29-14 in the Mini-Girls category. They're growing them tall in Mistissini these days.

The Men's "B" saw something you don't see everyday. Tiffany Neeposh, female and sports active, was a member of the team. This girl can keep up with any of the guys in more sports than just basketball. Her team, the Mistissini J.P.'s, slaughtered the opposing Mistissini Red Army 43-31. The Men's class "A" category should've been videotaped. It was great and what teamwork by the tourney winners from Amos. It was a fight to the finish with a score of 48-40. The Mistissini Falcon's took second place.

Seeing all this interest in basketball, I grew a little curious. Curiosity may have killed the cat, but it led me down a different path. I ended up talking to John Gossett. Gossett was involved in Mistissini's summer basketball camp as guest instructor. He is on the board of directors of Basketball Canada, director of the Canadian Basketball Hall of Fame and executive director of the Naismith Foundation. The Naismith Foundation is a non-profit foundation dedicated to promoting and preserving the heritage of the game. MacLeod and the other recreation members managed to track Gossett down and invited him up to Mistissini to discuss what assistance the foundation could provide.

"As a foundation, we assist in developing basketball in grassroots areas. This was an ideal scenario to participate," said Gossett. He said it was ideal because basketball was relatively new and there were two gyms available. He felt that travelling outside the communities is difficult for Cree players, and so learning the higher levels of the game is limited to the television. He said that was why the foundation became involved in the camp. It was not only to teach the game but also teach people on refereeing the game.

Gossett remarked that the camp and this tournament would help to make the interest in the game grow in Mistissini.

"It's fascinating seeing the people here, watching the contest and the games. They were taking in the spirit of the sport. It's so good-natured, so it's a natural mix," enthused Gossett. He felt privileged to be on hand for Mistissini's tournament: "I enjoyed myself."

He said the game of basketball was meant for the hard cold winters, something he feels Mistissini has plenty of. Gossett said the game is picking up so fast that "this reserve is a walking catalogue for Nike. If you look around Nike is everywhere, so Michael Jordan has reached Mistissini. He's a well-known local figure here,

much more recognizable than any hockey player is. He's been the great salesman for the game here."

He's agreed to help the local recreation department set up a basketball association. "It's everything from teaching the game to training referees so they can save costs. Referees are the only component of basketball that there's a fee for. If we can create a referee base on the reserve here, then the game can grow. They can share those skills with the younger groups because if the games are officiated properly then skills grow too," said Gossett. He said one really good thing about Mistissini is there wasn't competition for gyms like in the south. This means there is an opportunity to develop the sport.

He looks forward to helping out again during a planned clinic for referees and coaches next spring. "However we can help out, I'm glad to help out. It's been a lot of pleasure for me. I just see the people here, in the games and certainly in the camp in the summer, they're just so excited to be involved in basketball. The sportsmanship is incredibly hot. The spirit of the game, well, you would never see a game in Ottawa where the score is close and the players are still smiling at each other at the end of the game. They're just having so much fun. I think it's been a tremendous opportunity for the kids. Basketball is such an enjoyed sport here that they truly understand. It's why the game was invented. That this was a fun activity and the people here truly enjoy it," ended Gossett.

Basketball may be new to the Cree communities but the signs are there, saying it's here to stay.

Champions Amos vs. the 2nd place Mistissini Falcons

PHOTOS BY WILL NICHOLLS

Mini-girls, Mist. Mon-Stars vs Mist Fila

Tiffany Neeposh

Mistissini Sports & Recreation

Cree Nation of Mistissini, Quebec

On behalf of the Minor Hockey and Broomball Association and the Mistissini Sports and Recreation Department, we are pleased to inform you that our Annual Minor Hockey and Broomball Tournament will be held in Mistissini on November 20, 21, 22 & 23, 1997.

ANNUAL INVITATIONAL MISTISSINI MINOR HOCKEY & BROOMBALL TOURNAMENT

We are officially inviting you to participate in our Annual Minor Hockey and Broomball Tournament. The registration form must be completed, signed and returned with the inscription fee no later than ***November 14, 1997.***

CATEGORIES	TEAMS	INSCRIPTION FEE	CHAMPIONS	FINALISTS
Pre-Novice Hockey	Eight (8)	$150.00	$500.00	$250.00
Novice Hockey	Eight (8)	$250.00	$1,000.00	$500.00
Atom Hockey	Eight (8)	$250.00	$1,000.00	$500.00
Peewee Hockey	Eight (8)	$250.00	$1,000.00	$500.00
Novice Broomball	Eight (8)	$250.00	$1,000.00	$500.00
Cadette Broomball	Eight (8)	$250.00	$1,000.00	$500.00
Midget Broomball	Eight (8)	$350.00	$1,500.00	$750.00

**Additional Prizes: Trophies and Medals will be awarded to the finalists. Individual awards will also be presented to all categories. Also games stars will be selected in all the games. Prize money may vary depending on the number of teams that register.*

THIS TOURNAMENT IS ORGANIZED FOR THE INTENTION OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND GOOD FRIENDLY SPIRIT.

****NOTE:**
DEADLINE FOR INSCRIPTIONS IS NOVEMBER 14, 1997.

For more information contact Jean-Baptiste Loon or Robie Petawabano at the Recreation Office (418) 923-3461.

The Twilight Zone

Your Horoscope

By Thelma & Louise

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) Fairy tales can come true. They can happen to you, if you are young at heart. Romance is in the air. Get out your wings and fly.

Pisces (Feb 19-March 20) Follow that smell and you can't lose. It could be the smell of money or something else. So start sniffing around like a K-9.

Aries (March 21-April 19) New prospects on the horizon. You could meet up with quelqu'un soon. Life is a bowl of sweet cherries. You're feeling so happy you could be singing Barney songs at a rock concert.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) We are feeling neglected aren't we? When all else fails... Call mom! After all she holds the answers to life's mysteries. She will show the Guiding Light to All of her Children.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Going around the block a few times could make you dizzy. Slow down and enjoy the ride. Your path takes you to new territories, which will brighten your life.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Don't let jealousy rock the house. You are the one that rocks the party! Control is your middle name. You are in complete and utter control. So ride the wave.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22) There is justification in a higher education my friend. For you, this could mean learning from the past. Being sorry for the things we did before helps us move on to bigger and better things.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22) Stop begging for money. People are getting sick of hearing you grovel. Try taking charge of your life. You underestimate yourself too often. Remember you have plenty to offer.

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Nature and nurture go hand in hand. Take care of your house (clean it) and this will lift up your spirits. Maybe even those house spirits living under the stairs.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) Cha-ching! It's money in the bank month and you are on the loose. Enjoy it while it lasts. People will start seeing things your way (as if there is any other way!) Sit back. You are the puppet-master.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) Worrying about failure will only increase your chances of failing. Concentrate on the positive and life will be smooth sailing. Your competitive side will ensure this takes place.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) Get help. It is time to take the bull by the horns. Start running your life. Listen to the expert, namely: yourself. Only you know what is best for you. What are you waiting for, get going!

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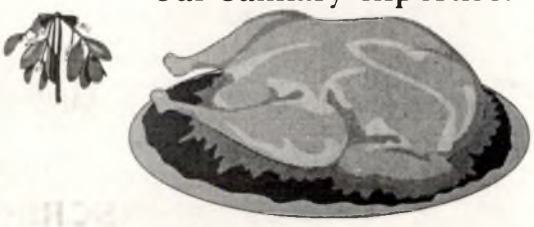

Reserve now for the holidays!

Between Friends MAKE-O

BY DEANTHA EDMUNDS

Between Friends asked for volunteers for its first ever make-over and sadly no one responded. Soooo, we twisted Nian's arm once again. It took some convincing but in the end she was a very good sport about it. Besides, the hair and make-up was free.

Nian was tired of her long, thick and heavy hair. She didn't have the time and energy to style it every morning before class. She wanted a sassier cut that was less demanding and would be ready to go at a moments notice.

Gino Maglieri, nominated best hairdresser in Quebec this year, was up for the challenge and generously donated his creativity and time from his busy schedule. He had just returned from LA eager to show the latest looks from the coast.

Gino prides himself on personalizing the hair-cut to suit the person and their lifestyle. Nian has an oval/round face shape - Gino said it's the perfect shape because you can do anything with it. To begin with, Gino studied her hair and asked her what she liked and didn't like about it. It was quite long, and pretty heavy. Gino said that by using some new techniques called *razor slicing* and *feathering*, he could create a one length effect with volume, layered on the sides to bring out contours of her face. Gino talked a lot about "interlocking the hair" - instead of cutting straight across for a blunt cut, the hair is feathered to fall gently and naturally. He feathered just the hair on top of her head to add volume - with this technique, the shorter hair underneath the longer layers gives it more bounce and lift. He wanted to add more of a textured look to her silky hair by creating layers and wisps that frame her face. It gives a more subtle look, keeping the length while eliminating the weight of the hair.

After the cut, Gino worked his styling magic and shared some tips with us:

Blow-dry the hair upside down, using a flatbrush to give lift and bounce. NO hairspray! Gino instead used a tiny dab of luminating gel, to add gloss and sheen. The look is natural and flattering. She looks awesome!

For the cosmetic portion of the make-over, we had an appointment at the Clarins counter at The Bay. The make-up artist took care not to muss her new do and went to work.The colors he chose were blues, greens and browns, representing the sky, the color of nature, and the earth. You can tell from the illustration that he went into a lot of detail and used a lot of makeup. It was hard to keep track of what he was putting where and why, but in the end she looked beautiful. However, when Nian first saw her reflection in the mirror, the cherry-red lips made her squeal, "I look like a hussy!" We reassured her that she looked great and that it would all eventually wash off.

Keep in mind - this completely flawless "done-up" look is not very appropriate for most of our every-day lives, unless you're a supermodel. Want a more practical look for us real people? Lighten up on the dramatic eye makeup, go for a more natural lipstick color, use a dot of concealer under eyes, a little shine-free powder and go for a clean and natural look! Important tip to pass on - no matter what your make-up routine is, maintenance is most important. Moisturizing your face, especially around eyes, every night and morning, is a *must* to keep your skin young and wrinkle-free!

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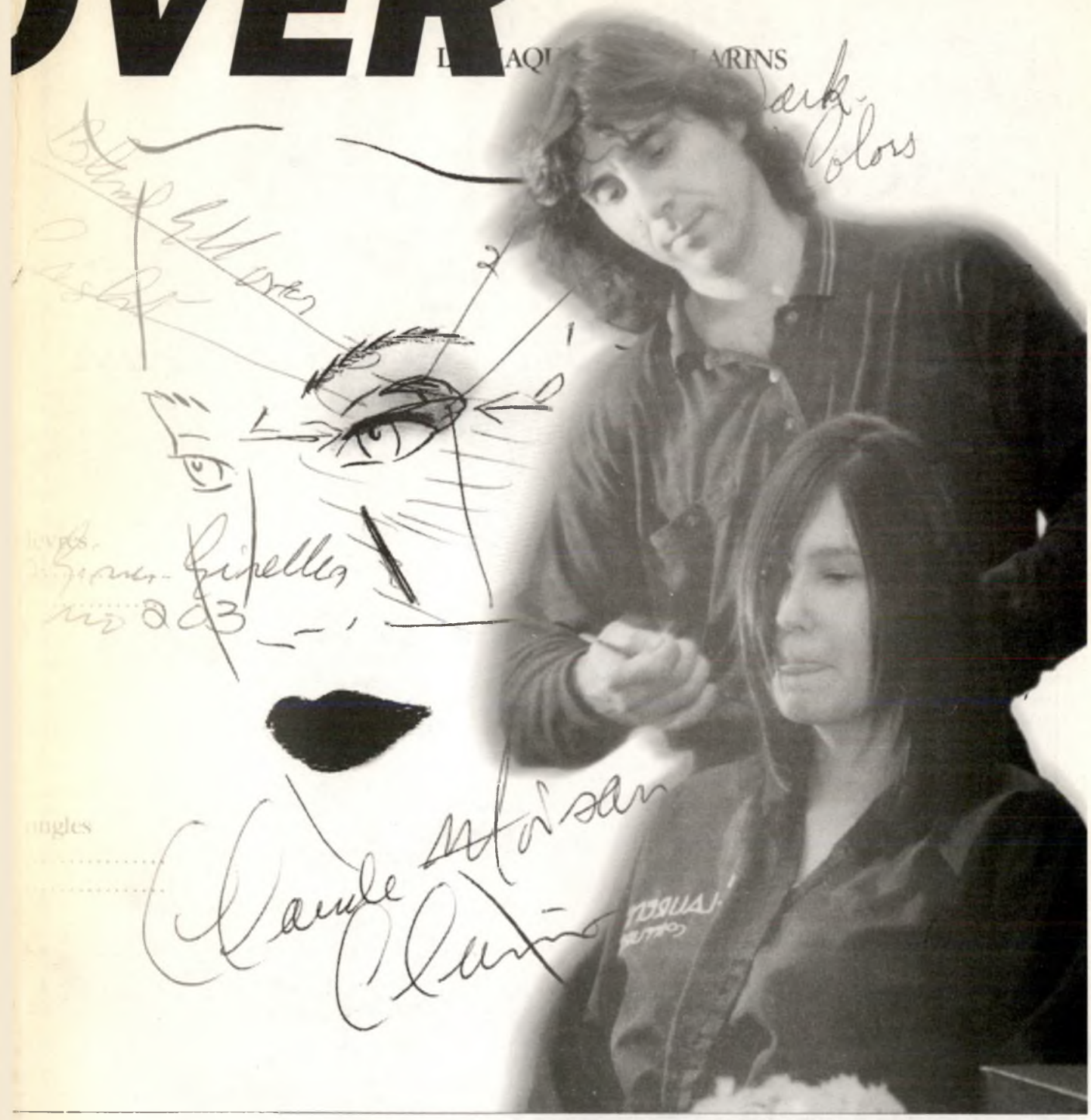

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Cree School Board
Commission scolaire Crie

“ᐅ ᑎᓵᑎ·ᐅᐱᓂ·ᐃᑦ ᑭᑎ·ᐅᔨᒋᒍᓄᑦ”

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ᑲ ᐊᓕᒧᒪᑎᐱᓄ·ᐃᑦ: **“ᐅ ᑎᓵᑎ·ᐅᐱᓂ·ᐃᑦ ᑭᑎ·ᐅᔨᒋᒍᓄᑦ”**

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Cree School Board
Commission scolaire Crie

"REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN"

CREE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL CONFERENCE

DATE: November 4 - 6, 1997 • PLACE: Ouje Bougoumou, Quebec
Theme: "REMEMBERING OUR CHILDREN"

The Cree School Board will host a regional conference whereby invited representatives from the Cree communities, Cree schools, Cree regional entities, and the Cree leaderships can discuss issues, share ideas, look to the future and recommend how we, as a Cree Nation can improve the use of and further develop our Cree Language and Culture.

Language of Conference: This conference will be only in the Cree Language.

People Invited: Cree teachers, Commissioners of Cree School Board, Chiefs, Cree Nation Youth representatives, Regional Elders Council representatives, local Language and/or Cultural Coordinators, Representatives from the Regional Entities and the Grand Chief plus School Committee members.

For more information, please contact Luke MacLeod
phone: 418-923-2764
fax: 418-923-2077 (CSB)

Nemaska: Community Housing at Its Best!

The First Nation of Nemaska recognized that it needed to encourage householders to be involved in solving the housing shortages in the community. It therefore launched two housing initiatives, which are big steps in the right direction:

1. The Zero Balance Club provides incentives for tenants to pay the rent. This creates a positive financial record for the community and ensures the ability of the community to secure funding for more housing and community projects. The program also provides a community focus on how keeping a zero rental deficit benefits everybody. The Club works by using revenues generated by other band economic enterprises to provide prizes for those who have maintained a zero deficit, who have paid the rent regularly over the preceding months. In the past, prizes have been: a month's free rent, a drum of gas from the Nemaska gas station, meals at the Nemaska restaurant, a 30-second shopping spree at the store, and last December, three prizes were given out. $1,000 each for Christmas shopping. To qualify for the Christmas season grand prizes, the occupants had to have had a perfect record over the last 12 months.

2. Alternative Housing has been provided for young families, single people and single parents. These units are to alleviate, to the extent possible with existing funding, some of the over-crowding problems. The units provide some independence for mature young couples and singles who are ready to live on their own. There are two designs, a four-unit building with two units for young families and two for singles. The units have large living spaces and large windows and are built close to existing single family homes to make visiting easy. The other unit is a detached single bedroom unit.

For their efforts in housing, Nemaska has been nominated for an award at the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Awards Forum to be held at the Delta Hotel in Montreal October 22 to 24th, 1997.

Let's do as they do in Nemaska and:

Celebrate Nemaska for its future and our dreams!

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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
Grand Conseil des Cris (du Québec)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE

Cree Educators

and the language they love

With the introduction of Cree as a Language of Instruction, many hurdles had to be overcome. One such hurdle, according to former Cree School Board Chairman Luke MacLeod, was the whole concept of teaching in Cree.

"It was like people thought that English or French were the only languages that could teach math, history or geography. Our language, the Cree language, wasn't good enough," MacLeod, coordinator of the upcoming Cree Language and Culture Conference, told *the Nation*.

Assimilation attempts that happened in the past are responsible for this, Luke MacLeod said adding "Residential schools taught us a lot but one of the things they taught the Crees was that our language and culture weren't up to Canadian standards. To think this way is wrong. English and French should always be a second or third language, one that we speak fluently, of course, but not the primary language. They aren't ours and the Cree language is," It will be something that is looked at in the upcoming Cree Language and Culture Conference.

> "...they think Cree is a universal language because they talk to everybody in Cree."

Three women from three communities have been involved in Cree as a Language of Instruction Programs at different levels. Gertie Murdoch is Waskaganish's Community Education Administrator, Luci Salt is an education consultant for Cree Programs, working out of Chisasibi, and Lillian Diamond is the principal of the school in Nemaska.

Gertie Murdoch has been with the Cree School Board since it started back in 1978. She was in student services in Val d'Or. Murdoch's husband was involved in developing curriculum for Cree programs and was transferred to Waskaganish. "So I came with him," laughs Murdoch. That was back in 1980. Today Murdoch sees a pressing need for more Cree syllabics materials, especially in libraries.

***The Nation*: You've seen the start of Cree as a Language of Instruction. What are your impressions?**

Gertie Murdoch: I'm very impressed with it. At first I wasn't too keen on it. I've heard so many things like that it's better for a child to learn the second language early. They're able to pick up languages at a very early age. But as I see with our students in Cree, I really believe that if they master their own language, Cree, you can see with a lot them they aren't shy at all in speaking. In fact you could almost say they think Cree is a universal language because they talk to everybody in Cree. They come into the office, talk to us and they correct us.

So you find the greatest change is in the students?

For sure. I think everybody is more conscious of speaking Cree. Of making sure that you don't make a mistake. The students correct you. If you go into their side they tell you when you use an English word, on their side of the wing, where we have them. For example if you say table, they'll say no, this is what you say in Cree. You don't say table. But I guess that shows their confidence.

The CSB is thinking of taking Cree as a Language of Instruction to higher grades than three. Do you see this as a good thing?

I think it's a good thing, You have to follow through all the way up. At grade four today, a second language is taught like an immersion program.

How about in the beginning? Were there problems getting enough material?

At the beginning we rushed into it. We didn't have enough material. We had to be careful. If we are going further, we have to make sure we have enough material for the students. It affects people now and in their future. A lot of them in Grade 3 write very well in Cree. We have to have library books for them to pick up and continue reading. I think that is one place we lack materials right now is when we go in libraries, we only have English books in there. Sure they write a lot of their own stories right now but I think we have to have material for the libraries. Our signs in the libraries are in three languages but the students don't use the library much because there are no Cree books. We have very few texts with Cree syllabics in there.

Luci Salt, like Murdoch, has been with the Cree School Board since it started. She was one of the pioneers of Cree as a Language of Instruction Programs (CLIP). Salt and the late Annie Whiskeychan were hired to work as consultants for languages and culture.

Luci gives the teachers a lot of credit for what was out there. She said they were resource people who were already teaching in the schools. Being around them actually helped her Cree, she said. She also said that listening to Elders on tape expanded her vocabu-

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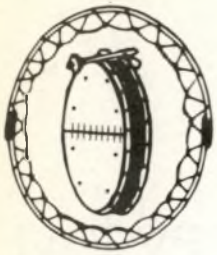

C.R.A.
A.R.C.

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY

ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE

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G.C.C.Q.

Job Posting

OPEN POSITION: Director of Quebec Relations
LOCATION: To be determined
COMPETITION: CRA - 434

Under the direction and supervision of the Executive Director of the Grand Council of the Crees Eeyou Astchee (GCCEA), the position of Director of Quebec Relations would entail a general responsibility of liaison with the provincial government and its agencies on behalf of the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Astchee). The director would be required to support provincial negotiations relating to issues pertaining to Cree rights under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (JBNQA), as well as support and assist communities and the Cree Nation in accessing program funds. An important function would be the development, in consultation with the communities, of a strategic plan for Cree/Quebec Relation.

REQUIREMENTS:

Extensive knowledge of Quebec government departments, operations and program;

Knowledge of Cree social, political and economic milieu;

Sound knowledge of the JBNQA;

Excellent written and oral communication in English and French; Cree language ability is an asset;

Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to work in a team;

Record in negotiations;

Prior employment in government is an asset;

Extensive travel, including regular visits to the communities.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Maintain an ongoing relationship with Quebec government representatives and agencies;

Advise the GCCEA on strategies to implement the JBNQA through tripartite negotiations with Quebec and Canada;

Advise Cree leadership in GCCEA/CRA and bands on Quebec government policies, programs or activities that have a direct bearing on Cree rights under the JBNQA;

Advise and assist GCCEA/CRA and communities in accessing Quebec government representatives and agencies;

Full research all Quebec programs and advise GCCEA/CRA, communities and individuals on any impact on Cree rights under the JBNQA;

Provide technical assistance to GCCEA/CRA and communities in all aspects of Cree/Quebec relations;

Prepare reports and briefing notes for Cree leadership, government representatives and agencies;

Compile and maintain database of all GCCEA/CRA and/or the communities' meetings, initiatives or involvements with Quebec representatives;

Coordinate research projects by consultants.

Salary for the above position shall be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The GCCEA/CRA offers a benefit package which includes Group Insurance and a Pension Plan.

If you are interested and meet the requirements of this position, please forward your resume mentioning the competition number CRA-434 by October 31, 1997 to:

Selection Committee
Cree Regional Authority
2 Lakeshore Road
Nemaska, Quebec
J0Y 3B0
Telephone: (819) 673-2600
Fax: (819) 673-2606

lary.

In the early days, she remembers most of the teachers hired to teach Cree language and culture in the schools could only speak Cree. They were also people who were living a traditional lifestyle, Luci recalls.

***The Nation*: In the beginning, were there enough materials for CLIP?**

Luci Salt: We did have a lot of materials. It was just getting it together, that was the hard part. We have a lot of resources on audiotapes. We used the Circle Program, which was designed for Native children. It was all in English so we had to translate it into Cree. That was hard. What would have made it much easier was to use our own material, the Cree stuff we had so much of instead of translating materials.

I hope this is one of the new directions of the School Board. It'll make our work much easier. The only thing we need for the younger grades is an illustrator. This is because we have a lot of information written down or on audiotape and it needs pictures to go with it.

The school board is thinking of extending CLIP to the eighth grade. Are you preparing for that now?

We still have a lot to work on with we've already started. Like with the elementary up to grade 4 or 5. We work on it together with the teachers who are teaching at that level.

What about the upcoming conference? Do you think this is something that is needed by the Cree Nation?

Yes, I think so. There's a time for everything. This is going to be a learning experience for everybody. A lot of us who have been through residential school are used to speaking in another language. We are used to working in a second and third language so it'll be fun to see people just talking in Cree. It'll be hard because we've gotten used to speaking the second language.

I think this conference will be good. It'll provide us with a direction of where the Cree people want to take Cree as a Language of Instruction for the school board. A lot of other Native groups across Canada have been interested in what we are doing. I think that once we get everything together and make some reports, they'll be interested in seeing what we are doing. They always tell us, "You guys are so far ahead of us."

Hopefully this conference will generate some good ideas for other nations that want to use their language for the instruction for their people.

What are your impressions of the CLIP program to date in the pilot communities?

According to the evaluation reports of Grades 1 and 2 and talking to the teachers, positive things have come out of it. Because they are using the language, the children find it easier to learn because they understand right away what the teacher is trying to tell them. Otherwise they would have to translate it first. The Cree values are also in our language and I feel that the children learn those along with reading and writing in Cree.

Come to the conference and you'll hear a lot of things about the program.

Lillian Diamond has come up through the ranks of the Cree School Board hierarchy. Starting out back in 1985 she was part of the school board's teacher training program in Waskaganish. She received her diploma in 1988. Now she is a principal. Nemaska just introduced Cree as a Language of Instruction for Grade 1. Diamond will also be graduating in January from a 30-credit course under McGill's Aboriginal Literacy Program.

What kind of concerns did the parents have with the Cree language program?

They were wondering if the children would be able to handle English or French when they got to the upper grades. That was their main concern.

Are their concerns valid?

It's hard to say because it's only the students' second year. The students who have come up, who are in Grade 3, are just starting to be integrated into the other language of instruction in arts and gym. One time in the gym, I found something really funny. The gym teacher tells everybody, "Everyone with white socks run to the other side of the gym." Most of those kids just stood there. (*laughter*) There are no problems with the kids working with the teacher since we started. It's like the kids enjoy school more. There are changes in their attitudes.

I don't think we've managed to convince the parents yet. I think in due time when they realize what's happening or see the success of the program and that it's working, we'll have convinced them. I've heard from other communities the kids pick up the second or third language quickly. We haven't experienced that here.

I know here in Nemaska when we told the young kids in Grade 2 they would be learning English or French, they were really excited. They were looking forward to it whereas before they may have dreaded it. It would seem hard for them at Grade 1 just to be immersed in another language.

What do you think of the Cree Language and Culture conference?

I think it's something that's needed. It'll be the first time we have ever had something like that. It'll be a good time to assess and review what's been happening so far in the programs and what's been accomplished. We have to look at whatever other work needs to be done and how we can promote it even more. We need to get other people involved. It has to be more than just the Cree School Board. The school can only do so much.

Residential schools have left a psychological impact on some of the parents. Some want their kids to know English or French more than Cree. They don't see why Cree should be taught in school when it's spoken at home. But I think this attitude goes back to residential school where Cree wasn't encouraged and wasn't thought to be as good as English or French. It was like at residential school. They didn't even consider Cree a language.

It's changing today. A lot of the teacher-trainees and Cree teachers are taking a Cree linguistics course from McGill. This is the first time I've heard of a university offering these types of Aboriginal language courses. I'm taking it as well. I started when I was teaching and I've continued. Personally it's really helped me even in my oral Cree as well as writing.

I'm looking forward to this conference and seeing all the other people there who are interested in seeing Cree language and culture have a true future.

EEYOUCH OF EEYOU ESTCHEE

Wachiya!

The Council of Commissioners of the Cree School Board has recently encouraged new efforts to finalize and adopt a Cree Education Act, an Act which will be more representative of Eeyou and Eeyou Chiskotamachaoun.

A Cree Education Act Review Committee was established and the mandate given was to renew discussions and dialogue with all the Cree communities.

Since a first draft of a Cree Education Act was completed in October 1994, the Cree School Board then proceeded to re-distribute many copies of this draft in the Cree territory. A first consultation tour was completed in October 1996 and the main discussions focused on improving this first draft.

All school commissioners and school committee members have since been encouraged to hold further consultations in their respective communities. The results from these consultations will be compiled by the Review Committee hopefully before the end of January 1998.

The Council of Commissioners have also approved to host the First Assembly on the Cree Education Act, to be held on February 17, 18, and 19, 1998. This first assembly will be a working assembly and the results from the consultation process will be tabled and reviewed by the members that will be attending on behalf of their communities. The Review Committee members are very hopeful that the end result of this Assembly will be a completed revised draft that will be adopted by the Eeyou Nation of Eeyou Estchee.

Before any other plans regarding the Cree Education Act are to be considered by the Review Committee, we are appealing to all of you to participate and to be involved now in this review process. You can obtain information in regards to the process determined for your respective communities through the school commissioners. If you wish to present a written position, please do so by sending it to the Secretary-General of the Cree School Board in Mistissini.

The future of Eeyou Chiskotomachaoun is in our hands. As a committee, we have every confidence that the Eeyou Nation of Eeyou Estchee will again rise to meet this new challenge.

Meegwatch!
Mabel Herodier
Chairperson of the Cree Education Act Review Committee

POSTER CONTEST

CREE SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC BULLETIN

The Cree Education Act Review Committee is pleased to announce a poster contest open to all members of the Cree Communities residing on or out of territory. The poster must emphasize the following themes:

1. "Reclaiming Our Children's Future";
2. "Children Are Our Future Leaders".

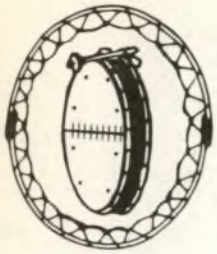
The winning entry will be used to promote the First Assembly on the Cree Education Act and the logo will also be used to promote all future works that will be commissioned on the Cree Education Act.

The prizes for this contest are divided as follows:

1st Prize $1,000.00 and a trip paid to the First Assembly
2nd Prize $750.00
3rd Prize $250

The deadline to receive entries is Friday, November 28, 1997.
All entries are to be sent to the following address:

Office of the Secretary-General
Cree School Board
203 Main Street
P.O. Box 1210
Baie du Poste (Mistissini), Quebec
G0W 1C0



C.R.A.
A.R.C.

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY

ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CRIE

2 LAKESHOREROAD,
NEMASKA, (QUEBEC) J0Y 3B0

G.C.C.Q.

Offre d'Emploi

POSITION: Directeur des Relations avec le Gouvernement du Quebec
LIEU DE TRAVAIL: A determiner
NUMÉRO DE RÉFÉRENCE: CRA-434

Relevant du Directeur-Exécutif du Grand Conseil des Cris (Eeyou Astchee) (GCCEA), le directeur des Relations avec le gouvernement du Québec assurera la liaison entre le GCCEA et le gouvernement provincial et ses divers ministères. Il agit comme conseiller sur toute négociation touchant la Convention de la Baie James et du Nord Québecois (JBQNA). Il informe et assiste les neuf communautés cries quant aux programmes gouvernementaux. Il developpe, en consultation avec les autorités cries et les neuf communautés un plan stratégique touchant les relations Quebec - Nation Crie.

EXIGENCES:

Connaissance approfondie des ministères du gouvernement québécois ainsi que leurs programmes et opérations;

Connaissance approfondie de la JBNQA, le milieu social, et politique cris;

Maîtrise parfaite du français et anglais (oral, écrit); la connaissance du cri demeure un atout;

Expérience en négociation bilatérale;

Aptitude et intérêt à travailler en équipe;

Expérience de travail au sein de l'appareil gouvernemental Québécois demeure un atout;

Disposer à voyager intensivement dans les communautés cries.

FONCTIONS:

Conseille le GCCEA sur tout dossier relevant des négociations tripartites (Canada-Québec-Cris) spécialement les clauses touchant la Convention de la Baie-James et du Nord Québécois (JBNQA);

Assure le lien entre le gouvernement québécois et les instances cries;

Rédige des communiqués de presse et fournit une assistance technique au GCCEA et aux neuf communautés cries;

Informe le GCCEA et les communautés sur tout programme gouvernemental suceptible d'affecter la Nation crie;

Rédige pour les dirigeants cris des rapports incluant des recommendations, analyses;

Assure le support administratif touchant les relations Québec-Nation Crie;

Coordonne les projets de recherche effectués par des consultants.

Le GCCEA/CRA offre une rémunération concurrentielle ainsi qu'un excellent régime d'avantages sociaux.

Veuillez faire pervenir votre curriculum vitae avant le 31 octobre 1997 à:

Comité de Sélection
GCCEA/Cree Regional Authority
2, Lakeshore Road
Nemaska, Quebec
J0Y 3B0
Téléphone: (819) 673-2600
Télécopier: (819) 673-2606

Letter to *The Nation*:

Let's get straight to the point this morning and get a little "Truth" out about "Loneliness" in the communities.

Okay, we talk politics, we talk hunting, we wish happy birthday to him or her or to grandma or to grandpa, etc... But! Does anyone realize how much the old people, sick people and even some youths can suffer from "loneliness," which leads (too many times) to depression. Also does anyone know that loneliness can kill?

Let me tell you very briefly the story about my little friend Buckley.

Buckley is in Seconday I, a very good student, he loves to laugh, loves music, drawing, is interested in all sorts of school or sport activities. All in all Buckley is a very generous, outgoing person. He is interested in others, he knows how to listen and above all never complains... The only thing is that my little friend is condemned in a wheelchair. He has to be carried back and forth from home to school. He doesn't have many places to go except for these two places and sometimes at the camp where he (if only he could) spends a great deal of time there.

Since Buckley's big brother and sister left for school outside the community, he finds himself alone. The house is empty without them. Although his mom and dad spend a lot of time with him at home, it's just not the same... Guess what? I decided to start a correspondence club for my friend. He doesn't know, it's a surprise and I wish you too could surprise him with your letters. I let it up to him to tell you about himself. If you too feel lonely and need to correspond with someone who may feel a little like you or you need a friend or search for an old friend, no matter what your age is, pick up a pen and paper and write to:

Buckley G. Be my Friend Club
Box 00001
Whapmagoostui, Qc.
J0M 1G0

We will reply to all your letters. Please write back. Send us pictures if you like.

P.S. No one deserves to be left aside. Everyone needs love, understanding and care. By this I don't mean that if you feel your parents or grandparents are lonely, bring them all your kids to keep them company for a couple of days. Just use your imagination and care for the ones in need... Thank you!... (I have just spoken to Buckley's father and told him about the surprise for Buckley and he is very pleased with the idea.)

Dr. Truth
Whampagoostui

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CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

Congratulations to my uncle Matthew and Emily wapachee. They had a new little baby girl name Natasha Emily Rosie Wapachee. Born September 10. She's my new cousin. Wow a new little baby angel girl. From your niece Andrea Wapachee.

Congratulations, Linda and Harry on the birth of your first born son Barry Jeremiah on September 18th, 1997. Wishing you three happiness. Gordon and Lillian.

We'd like to welcome our littlest cousin baby Barry Jeremiah Coon into this great big world. don't worry, one day you will conquer it! With hugs and kisses, Cody and Amber Lynn.

Congratulations to Nadia Neacappo and Sam Matthew on the birth of their son Gabriel Mark on September 23, 1997. Take good care of him. He is a precious gift. With lots of love from Pauline, Francine and Barry.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to someone special in our lives, George Longchap jr. on October 23, 1997. We love you, you love us, we are a happy family and with a great big hug and a kiss from us to you. From your wife, Daylon and Jennica Longchap.

We want to wish a happy birthday to Zacharaiah Longchap on October 8 and to our grandpa Isaac Loon on October 25, to our aunt Nancy Loon on October 27 and to our aunt Betsy Lebizay on October 29, 1997. You are all special, funny and greatest of is you love us and we love you all. From Jennica and Daylon Longchap.

I would like to wish a ahappy 19th birthday to my cousin who's probably somewhere in North Bay, in a bar maybe drinking beer. So, doesa it taste good?! Hey! take it easy and don't pass out in the middle of nowhere. Shaag chee eh mingoiin indeh eh weh yuu dagamuut. Happy birthday on October 3. From your cousin Itt in waskaganish. P.S. I hope you find yourself a guy over there. i really want to see you get settled already!.

Happy birthday to two handsome little men who brought so much love and happiness for us. Danny on October 6th and Davey on October 9th. Happy birthday and many more. We love you so much. With love, kisses and hugs from grandpa and grandma, uncle Charles, JJ and auntie Lisa

102-WEDDINGS

We would like to congratulate our daughter Dinah and son in law David on their wedding day of August 15, 1997. We wish you both the best of love and happiness in the future. Remember that we have to work hard and make a lot of sacrifices for the best of life can offer and that we are always here when you need us. Take care of each other. Love always, mom and dad House.

To Sarah and Trevor: Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud. Love is not ill-mannered, selfish or irritable. Love does not keep a record of wrongs. Love is not happy with evil. But is happy with truth. Love never gives up; its faith, hope and patience never fail. Congratulations on your marriage on September 20th, 1997. From Gordon, Lillian, Amber Lynn and Cody sandy.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 20th anniversary to my aunt Demerise and George Iserhoff on September 23, 1997 and many more years to come. God bless you. From your niece Andrea Wapachee.

Happy 6th wedding anniversary to our son and his wife Brian and Martha Hester on September 27, 1997. Also happy 3rd wedding anniversary to our son and his wife Adam and Edna Hester on September 30, 1997. May the sound of wedding bells always be a reminder of your wedding day. Happy anniversary and we love you. From your parents Clifford and Mary Hester. Waskaganish.

To my husband Ricky Angatookaluk. It will be three years on October 14 that we said those vows from our heart. With each year that passes, our love will be as strong as ever. Happy anniversary. I love you. Your wife, Melanie.

Happy 19th anniversary to my uncle Kenny and Margaret Wapachee on September 29, 1997 and many more years to come. God bless you. From your niece Andrea Wapachee.

300-PERSONALS

This one goes out to the one we can't help but admire. Pamela Macleod and her little son Kenny. Great talking to you the other night. You rock our worlds. A long time friend, a loving mother and a model student. What more could we ask for? By the way, how are those chocolate ice cream cones?!!!? Ha! Ha! Let us know if you find a new flavour! Thinking of you often...Kiss Kenny Boy for us. Love, N&D.

Hey ya all at 100 Poplar, 10 Spruce, Balsam and Hum Hum Alder St. in Waswanipi, snap out of it. What are you all up to these days? You must all have some very busy schedules, why some of ya never call. Write and for some stop by and visit (just trying to get you all out of your ruts) Hey! get some of that long distance feeling. I'm really missing some family around. It's really embarrassing for me to write this. Ha ha! Anyway, love you and miss you all! Call collect if ya havta (418) 923-2637. From 64 Queen St., Mistissini. You all know me. And get some of that loving feeling, okay? (Now I'm in real trouble) Sept. 28, 1997.

I thought you should know that I think of you very often and want to be with you because I know it's true that I do love you very much with all my heart. But I don't know how you feel because you never do let me know. I wish everything was very simple, just snap of my fingers to change everything that could never happen. Just remember that I really do love you. Talk to you soon. Love always, YID.

A special hello to grandma Helen and great grandma Edna Kitty Spencer in Chisasibi! Love and sloppy kisses, (great) grandson, Ryan Happyjack.

I would like to say hi to Paul Polson in Vald'Or. Hi Paul! Bye Paul. take care. From your friend in Waskaganish. P.S. I like the tape you made for me. Thanx. But why did you record Backstreets back. Ha!!!

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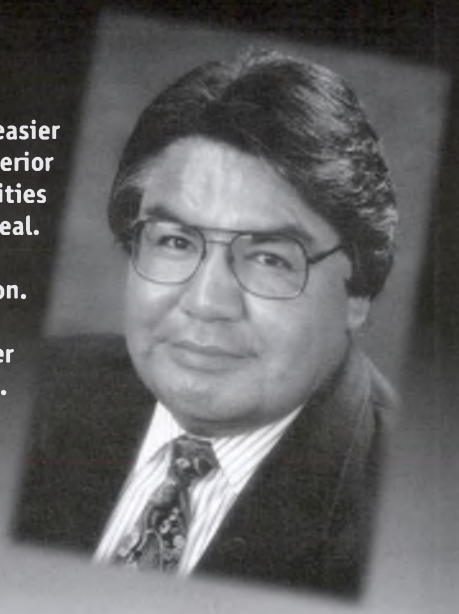
Chisasibi 1:40 pm	La Grande 2:00 pm	Chibougagmau 3:35 pm	Montreal 5:15 pm



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Spirits in the Sun,
2482 Yonge St.,Suite 22
Toronto, Ontario,
Canada M4P 2H5

phone: (416)482-1960
fax (416)482-2160
E-mail: spirits@sympatico.ca

or reach us on the web at:
www.spiritsinthesun.com

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